

Winter 2019



INTERLOC

Published by the
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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I trust that you had a relaxing and joyful Holiday Season and a great start of the 2019 year. As we begin a new year, please be reminded of the upcoming workshops that are being offered. Due to lack of participation, we had to cancel a few workshops thus far. If there is a workshop that you would like for the county office to hold, please let us know.

There is a quote by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. that is posted at the end of this message. Let’s be reminded of the things that our organization has fought for. **NOW IS THE TIME** for us as educators continue to fight for what is right, not just for others but for ourselves. **NOW IS THE TIME** to continue to be involved within our local, county and state association. **NOW IS THE TIME** for us to be UNITED and NOT DIVIDED. **NOW IS THE TIME** for us to stand up for our students. **NOW IS THE TIME** for us to treat each other with respect. **NOW IS THE TIME!**

Continue to take advantage of what is being offered to you as a member of the association. Take advantage of the many workshops and events. I can’t stress it enough. It’s your learning and no one else. Everything that we do, is FOR YOU.

I look forward to seeing you at our workshops and/or events.

—Lisa Palin, UCEA President

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“Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksand of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God’s children.” **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

*UCEA WORKSHOPS
AND EVENTS*

2018-2019

UCEA WORKSHOPS FOR 2018-2019

DATE	WORKSHOP/EVENT TITLE
February 6, 2019	Supporting Transgender Students
February 12, 2019	Gangs
February 28, 2019	<i>Read Across America</i> Event, Barnes & Noble, Springfield, NJ
March 14, 2019	LAT Meeting
April 3, 2019	Legislative Dinner
April 8, 2019	XYZ's of Retirement
April 9, 2019	Your Social Security
May 1, 2019	Secretaries' Dinner Workshop
May 6, 2019	Nurses' Dinner Workshop
May 16, 2019	LAT Meeting

Workshop Registration: A \$10.00 deposit is required; a separate \$10.00 check is required for each workshop. Send a check made out to Union County Education Association, along with Name, District, Home Phone & Work Phone Number to the UCEA office: 77 Central Ave., Clark, NJ 07066. Deposits will be returned to participants at the end of the workshop or if the workshop is canceled within three (3) business days prior to the workshop. All workshops are held at the UCEA office from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm and refreshments are provided. No one will be admitted after 4:30 pm. NO EXCEPTIONS!

**UCEA OVERNIGHT
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP
MARCH 22-23, 2019**

RENAISSANCE WOODBRIDGE
515 US Highway Route 1 South, Iselin, NJ 08830

The UCEA Overnight PD registration deadline has been extended until February 15th. We have great workshops beginning with a Dave Ellis presentation on Friday night: "Trauma in Schools." Ellis is the founder of Dave Ellis Consulting, a group dedicated to providing quality strategic planning and community engagement services utilizing the "Art of Hosting Conversations That Matter." Ellis is an expert in training and facilitating conversations regarding toxic stress in the lives of children, ages prenatal to three. You don't want to miss it.

Please visit our website at www.unioncountyea.org for more information as well as the registration form.



Barbara Brady: Union County Teacher of the Year 2018-19

Hats off to Barbara Brady, an employee of the Linden Public School District for the past 21 years, who has been named Union County Teacher of the Year for 2018-19. Brady is a talented and versatile figure in the field of physical education. She currently teaches at Linden High School, where she serves as the Health and Physical Education Department Chairperson and a physical education dance teacher. In addition to her daily responsibilities, Brady serves as director of the Linden High School Dance Company, choreographing the annual school musical for seven years during her tenure. She is also on the Homecoming Committee, the all-school Bonfire Committee, all-school Picnic Committee, and the Annual District Launch Committee.



Brady admits that dance is her “passion.” She says, “I really enjoy teaching the students to create, choreograph, and perform. I love watching them grow as dancers from the beginning of the year to the end, when they perform on stage.” Brady advocates for her students and is devoted their individual successes, both inside and outside the classroom.

For the past six years, Brady has served as a vice principal of Dance for the New Jersey Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (NJAPERD). This association is dedicated to advancing quality health education and promotes responsibility and development of healthy active lifestyles for New Jersey’s students, educators, and community members.

Prior to entering the education profession, Brady was a professional ballerina. She performed with the New Jersey Ballet Company, the Joffrey Ballet (NYC), and the NJ State Opera. She also performed and choreographed for the Cumberland County Playhouse in Tennessee. In New Jersey, Barbara has produced, directed and/or choreographed over 65 shows since 1992 and is a Co-founder and President of Mystic Vision Players, a Union County-based non-profit community theater company. She was a member of the Union County Cultural & Heritage Programs Advisory Board. A Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star Award Nominee and the recipient of many NJ ACT (Achievement in Community Theater) awards, Barbara received the NJAPERD Dance Education Award as a senior in college and was awarded a medallion from Governor Whitman for promoting culture in New Jersey.

When Brady was sidelined by a knee injury early in her career, she decided to take her passion into the education field and subsequently earned her degree in health and physical education. She says, “My mom was a teacher and I have always respected the profession. During college, I was coaching and choreographing dance. I really enjoyed working with high school students, so I decided to make that my next path in life.”

Notably, Brady was a finalist for SHAPE America National Dance Teacher of the Year in 2018 and 2013. She was named SHAPE America Eastern District Dance Teacher of the Year in 2018 and 2013. She was also named NJAPERD Dance Teacher of the Year 2016 and 2012.

Brady encourages new teachers to develop healthy relationships with the students. “It is important to have a good rapport in order to have success,” she says. “The rapport that a teacher has with their students is priceless. My students call me ‘Mama B’ because I have created a family environment in my classroom. My students feel safe when they are there and are always excited to learn.”

Brady has been married for 17 years to Kevin Brady, who is a Deputy Chief in the Linden Fire Department. They have three children: Marisa (15), Giulia (13) and Michael (10). The Union County Education Association salutes Barbara Brady for her numerous achievements and her unparalleled dedication to health and physical education.





Carol Walsh: Union County ESP of the Year 2018-19

Congrats to Carol Walsh, a paraprofessional in the Union Township School District, who has been named the Union County Education Association's ESP of the Year. Walsh primarily works with autistic children at the elementary level. She started her career as a personal assistant to an autistic child, providing support for him from third grade to fifth grade. At Battle Hill Elementary School, Walsh helped set up the new Cognitive Impaired classroom and worked there as a classroom assistant or a personal assistant. She was then asked to help set up the new Pre-K autistic room, a task which she said she "thoroughly enjoyed." Currently, Walsh is assigned to Connecticut Farms Elementary School where she works in a classroom with autistic children. Walsh has been trained in both the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and Rethink programs to work with children with special needs.



Outside the classroom, Walsh is active in the community. During the summer months, she works at a nearby Recreational Department as a Site Director for a mini-day camp. During the winter months, Walsh is a supervisor for a youth skiing program. Walsh is also quite involved in her church, serving as a CCD teacher, Children's Liturgy teacher, and Eucharistic Minister. Walsh has been married to her husband Tom for 41 years. They have two sons: Tom and Dan. Walsh and her husband have lived in Union for the past 34 years.

Walsh says, "Working with an autistic population has given me great joy over the years." Her advice to others considering a career in education? "You must be very patient, understanding and loving with these children," she says. The Union County Education Association is proud to count Carol Walsh as one its members. Her enthusiasm and dedication to education, particularly to children with autism and special needs, are unparalleled.



Show Your Support for Our Education Support Professionals

Take a stand against privatization and injustice! **Contact your legislators** and encourage them to support...

S-296 / A-3185 / A-3395

These bills will protect school employees from job privatization and will provide due process rights to non-teaching employees.